

metrica de DIMENSIONE FIGURARUM, Authore Davide Gregorio, in Academia Edinburgensi Matheseos Professore. Edinburgi in 4°. 1684. II. L' Art de Tailler les Arbres Fruitiers; & un Trait de L'usage des Fruits des Arbres, à Paris in 12. 1683.

A further account of the Bridge at Pont St. Esprit, whereof before, Numb. 160. together with a parallel History of some other Bridges at Rome: In a Letter from the ingenious Mr. Tankred Robinson to Dr. Martin Lister.

SINCE my last concerning the *Bridge at Pont St. Esprit*, I have found something more in that kind for your further diversion; I doe not doubt but you still retain a fresh *Idea* of the stately ruins of the *Modern Bridge at Avignon*, which hath yielded in many places to the extreme rapidity, and violence of the *Rhofne*. Its fall in my opinion may be ascrib'd to three defects; first, it was not so *Multangular*, as that at *St. Esprit*: Secondly, it wanted in 3 or 4 places, the little Arches dividing the feet of the great ones, and in those parts it hath suffer'd most; for where those useful sluices are, there I observ'd the bridge to stand still the most entire. Thirdly, the *Pedestals* (or as you very properly call them, *Horizontal Arches*) were not so *Geometrically* and exactly laid, as those of *Pont St. Esprit*, their jettings out were few, and they not gradually contracted, so that the force of the stream must be the greater upon the Fabrick.

Now that we are upon this sort of *History*, I will venture to carry you from the *Rhofne* to the *Tyber*, which, though not so swift as the *Rhofne*, yet is subject to greater inundations, as many inscriptions assure us. No *River*
ever.

ever had so many *bridges* built with that magnificence and art, as this ; and though they were more pompous, and rich in rare stones, in Sculpture, &c. than that I formerly sent you a draught of from *Montpelier* ; yet they had the like provision for their security, and preservation, and their design was much the same ; which may be seen at *Rome* this very day in the old *Pons Milvius* (now *Ponte nolle*) near the *via Flaminia* ; in the marble remains of the *Pons Æmilius* (repair'd with rich materials by *Antoninus Pius*) on the side of the *Ripa*, or *Traстеvere*, near the root of the *Aventine* hill, where first the *Pons Sublicius* stood ; as also in the *Pons Fabritius* and the *Cælius*, that leads over to the *Insula Tiberina* ; in all which there are still very fair marks of the old *Roman* structure, and design ; and if that prodigious City had not been knock't so often to peices by barbarous Sackers, we might have had still as clear proofs from the other bridges ; *viz.* The *Pons Triumphalis*, the *Senatorius*, &c. But *Gothish*, and *Northern torrents* broke all before them.

I have here, *Sir*, according to your commands, drawn up in writing those thoughts, which I mentioned the other day to you ; So I rest,

S I R,

Your very Humble Servant

TAN. ROBINSON.